



Platoon Commander Lt. David L. Wilson, his wife Sharlene, and his young son Jeffrey make final stop at the bank to re-arrange business affairs. He traded car on home for Mrs. Wilson and Jeff.

ON THE DAY before the first platoon of Company B of the 115th Engineers Battalion pulled out for Ft. Lewis, no one was saying how many men were involved.

That was hush-hush. But a year ago, the Utah National Guard platoon in Heber had about 30 members, and that's how many loaded their duffle bags on the train leaving Salt Lake City.

For the most part, the men came from Heber and Midway, small agricultural communities in the flat valley that lies green and inviting to the east of the Timpanogos massive.

They were but a handful of men that have been called to hundreds of National Guards- active duty by President Kennedy in face of the Berlin crisis. But for the communities of Heber and Midway, they were something more than a handful.

THEY WERE young men—mostly in the 20s. A couple had graduated from high school only last spring. The oldest was 29. About two-thirds were married. They would leave behind wives and children ranging from four months to four years of age.

There were some who were learning a trade, or who had only recently become skilled at a trade. A couple were professionals. Seven were college-

graduates; four were undergraduates.

What would the manpower loss mean to the communities? COUNTING FAMILIES

there would be significant population loss, according to Heber Mayor R. N. Jaconetti. Heber, for example, hasn't changed in population for the past three censuses.

But the economic loss will be modest, by his estimate. None of the guardsmen was in business. Some, of course, had not reached high earning power. Others, still students at Brigham Young University, Utah State University, and the University of Utah, of course, were not on anyone's payroll.

If anything the impact was on the individual—not on the community: Consider Sgt. Thomas L. Provost, 24, married and with a 9-month-old baby girl. He had been working for L and D Motor Supply for two years. He was a good worker, but it had taken nearly two years to master the supply room and sales procedure, and there was still plenty to learn.

Mack Davis, co-owner, had been "outside man," generating sales over the eastern part of the state. With Thomas gone, he's had to move behind the counter himself. As a result monthly business volume has